

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheet makes changes to Fig. 3 and replaces the original sheet with Figs. 2 and 3.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification is amended, and Figs. 2 and 3 are replaced with the attached replacement drawing sheet. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Beatty during the February 3, 2006 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

During the personal interview, Applicants' representative asserted that Konno, Nakayama, Umezawa and Hamada do not, alone or in permissible combination, teach or suggest a fixing device in which "the winding axis is substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the heating body," as recited in independent claims 1, 12 and 25, and similarly recited in independent claim 11.

Examiner Beatty indicated the Amendment filed January 11, 2006 overcomes the previous rejections based on Konno. However, Examiner Beatty stated that he must perform an updated search for other related art before issuing the next Office Action.

Examiner Beatty also requested that the specification and the drawings be amended to specifically recite and show a "winding axis" for better clarity. Applicants amend the specification and revise Fig. 3 to specifically indicate a "winding axis," as requested by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-25 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Registration No. 27,075

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Registration No. 50,212

JAO:HNM

Attachment:
Replacement Sheet (Figs. 2 and 3)

Date: February 28, 2006

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